

YOR920010335
Amendment dated 12/03/2008

09/917,818

00280706aa
Reply to office action mailed 09/03/2008

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for identifying a
- 2 cost-minimizing bid set for reverse combinatorial auctions where
- 3 all-or-nothing bids are allowed, ~~said method comprising the computer~~
- 4 performing the steps of:
- 5 receiving a plurality of bids, each bid having a timestamp, a bid price
- 6 and item information identifying at least one bid item;
- 7 introducing a decision variable for each bid;
- 8 introducing a counting variable to indicate whether bids from a
- 9 supplier are chosen in an optimal bid set;
- 10 modeling demand constraints for each item using the decision variable
- 11 for each bid;
- 12 modeling minimum and maximum numbers of suppliers based on the
- 13 counting variables;
- 14 introducing dummy bids, based on said modeled demand constraints,
- 15 to ensure computability of a cost-minimizing bid set meeting said modeled
- 16 demand constraints;
- 17 formulating an objective of choosing bids that arrive early, for a given
- 18 cost, based on an additional timestamped objective with the given cost level
- 19 as a constraint;
- 20 introducing price modifications to at least one of said bid's respective
- 21 item information and adjusting, based on said price modifications, the
- 22 formulated objective of choosing bids that arrive early, and

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23 generating a winner of the reverse combinatorial auction, by selecting
24 the cost-minimizing bid set from among said plurality of bids, the selecting
25 based on said time stamps, said bid prices, said item information, said
26 formulated objective of choosing bids that arrive early, and said modeled
27 demand constraints.

1 2. (currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1,
2 wherein the auction is a single-round auction.

1 3. (currently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1,
2 wherein the auction is a multiple-round auction.

1 4-11. (canceled)